

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An apparatus for measuring the relative difficulty in donning of a glove comprising:

a glove mount adapted to hold a glove in an open donnable position; and

5 a device for measuring the effort associated with donning the glove.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the glove mount is moveable with respect to a fixed reference.

3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the fixed reference comprises a base.

4. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the device comprises a load cell disposed
10 between the glove mount and the fixed reference.

5. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the device collects data on the force exerted between the glove mount and the fixed reference while the glove is being donned.

6. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the device collects data on any of: a force exerted between the glove mount and the fixed reference, linear movement of the
15 glove with respect to the fixed reference, linear movement of the glove mount with respect to the fixed reference, and peak load registered on the glove.

7. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the glove mount comprises at least one arm terminating in a first and a second end, one of the ends comprising at least one glove seat for mounting the glove thereon and holding the glove in the open
20 donnable position.

8. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the glove mount comprises at least one glove seat for mounting the glove thereon and holding the glove in the open donnable position.

9. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the at least one glove seat is arcuately

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shaped.

10. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the at least one glove seat is annular.

11. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the at least one glove seat is about one inch to about three inches in length.

5 12. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the at least one glove seat comprises a textured surface.

13. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the at least one glove seat is any of coated, knurled, ribbed, ridged, striated, and grooved.

10 14. The apparatus of claim 8 comprising two glove mounts disposed in spaced-apart, opposed relation with respect to the other forming a throat therebetween.

15 15. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the glove mount comprises two opposed arms connected to one another at a first end of each and terminating at a second end of each in at least one glove seat.

16. The apparatus of claim 15 wherein at least one glove seat on each arm is in opposed relation to at least one glove seat on the other arm.

17. The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the arms are manipulable in at least one of: their distance from one another, and their orientation with respect to the fixed reference.

20 18. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the glove mount is pivotable with respect to the fixed reference.

19. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the glove mount is slidably engaged with the fixed reference.

20. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the device comprises a linear variable differential transducer affixed to the glove mount.

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21. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the device comprises a light curtain adapted to measure glove displacement.

22. An apparatus for measuring the relative difficulty in donning of a glove comprising:

5 a base;

a glove mount slidably engaged with the base adapted to hold a glove in an open donnable position; and

a device for acquiring data on the effort associated with donning the glove.

23 The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the device comprises a load cell disposed
10 between the glove mount and the base.

(24) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the glove mount comprises at least two interconnected arms, each arm being spaced from the other a distance, interconnected at a first end, and each arm terminating at a second end in a glove seat suitable for mounting the glove thereon and holding the glove in the open
15 donnable position.

25. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein each glove seat is arcuately shaped.

26. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the glove seats are interconnected to form a ring through which the glove is donned.

27. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein each glove seat is about one inch to about
20 three inches in length.

28. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the glove seats comprise a textured surface.

29. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the glove seats are coated to increase their coefficient of friction.

30. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the distance separating the arms is adjustable.

31. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the arms are pivotable with respect to the base.

5 32. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the glove mount is pivotable with respect to the base.

33. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the device comprises a linear variable differential transducer affixed to the glove mount.

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10 34. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the device comprises a light curtain adapted to measure glove displacement.

35. An apparatus for measuring the relative difficulty in donning of a glove comprising:

a base;

15 a glove mount slidably engaged with the base, the glove mount comprising a moveable arm assembly terminating in a glove seat at a first end suitable for mounting the glove thereon and holding the glove in the open donnable position; and

a device for acquiring data on the effort associated with donning the glove.